

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON  
NSC UNDER SECRETARIES COMMITTEE

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NSC-U/DM-95Q

November 10, 1976

NSC REVIEW  
COMPLETED,  
6/26/2003

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: US-USSR Bilateral Technical Agreements:  
Renewal of Health, Artificial Heart,  
and Environment Agreements

On file HHS &  
EPA release  
instructions  
apply.

The Health and Environment Agreements signed at the Summit in Moscow in 1972, and the Artificial Heart Agreement signed at the 1974 Summit, come up for renewal on May 23 and June 28, 1977 respectively. Article 7 of these agreements provides for automatic renewal for five years if neither side announces intention to terminate six months in advance-- November 23 in the case of the Heart and Environment Agreements and December 28 in the case of the Artificial Heart Agreement.

Dr. Theodore Cooper, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, and US Co-Chairman of the Health and Artificial Heart Agreements strongly recommends permitting renewal due to the scientific merit of the joint programs. A copy of his letter is attached.

Russell Train, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and US Co-Chairman of the Environment Agreement cites important gains made and contacts established as a result of the Environment Agreement and similarly recommends renewal. A copy of his letter is also attached.

The Department of State concurs in the views and recommendations of the US Co-Chairmen, and believes that the basic policies which underlay the inception

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-2-

of the Agreements remain valid, and that termination, in the absence of serious problems, would disrupt continuity and would signal a major US policy change.

Neither the US Co-Chairmen nor the Department of State has received formal notification from the Soviets on the renewal question, but Soviet officials involved in joint programs have consistently indicated that they expect their government will make no move to cancel any of these three Agreements. This Soviet position was confirmed at the Health and Artificial Heart Joint Committee Meeting, October 25-29, and in consultation with the Environment Agreement Executive Secretary when he visited Moscow October 17-24. An explicit understanding with the Soviets will give a firm foundation for joint planning.

With your concurrence, the US Embassy in Moscow will be instructed to send notes to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before November 23 confirming the intention of the US Government not to invoke the termination provisions of the three Agreements. The US Co-Chairmen also plan a parallel exchange of letters with their Soviet counterparts.

Ceremonies marking renewal would be given consideration later in connection with the more appropriate dates in May and June 1977 when renewal actually takes effect.

Recommendation

That you concur in the course of action outlined above.



Charles W. Robinson  
Chairman

Attachments:  
As stated

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH  
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OCT 22 1976

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SW  
① TMA

② SOV-14  
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Mr. Arthur A. Hartman  
Assistant Secretary  
for European Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Hartman:

Thank you for your letter of October 19 requesting our recommendations regarding the renewal of the two U.S.-U.S.S.R. Agreements - the Agreement for Cooperation in Medical Science and Public Health; and the Agreement for Cooperation in Artificial Heart Research and Development - for which this Department has responsibility.

As you know, the Fifth Session of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Committee for Health Cooperation is scheduled for Moscow, October 24-29. In planning for this Meeting and in anticipation of internal discussions about this issue, I questioned the HEW coordinators about their interests in having these Agreements renewed. I am pleased to report that, due to the scientific merit of U.S.-U.S.S.R. activities under the Agreements, there was unanimous support among our coordinators for their renewal. Evaluation of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Program for Health Cooperation by my immediate staff confirms the value of these Agreements to the U.S. Public Health Service. Accordingly, I recommend that the Agreements be renewed.

Our Program for Health Cooperation with the Soviet Union has evolved significantly over the past four and a half years. At our next Joint Committee Meeting, and if the Agreements are renewed, in future years, we would anticipate further positive changes in the structure and content of our joint activities. We feel, however, that the current terms of both Agreements provide us with the flexibility we need at this time to pursue our interests in the cooperative effort.

With regard to your additional request for my views on how any publicity or ceremony for announcement might be handled, this obviously depends on the final decision. In general however, we feel that ours is a scientific cooperation and no particular fanfare is required.

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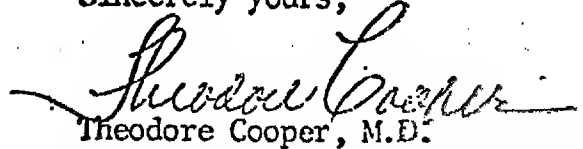
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Mr. Arthur A. Hartman

-2-

If additional questions arise, please do not hesitate to correspond with me further. I look forward to hearing the results of your deliberations.

Sincerely yours,



Theodore Cooper, M.D.

Assistant Secretary for Health

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Art:

Thank you for your letter of October 19 concerning the automatic renewal date of November 23 for the US-USSR Environmental Agreement. There is no question in my mind but that the United States should proceed with a second five years of cooperation under this Agreement. We believe that many important gains have been made and contacts established which justify continuation of the Agreement on scientific grounds. In this we are supported by the findings of the NSC Under Secretaries Committee's Critical Assessment and by the Technical Assessment which is being completed at the National Science Foundation under the auspices of the President's Science Advisor. At the same time, we are very aware of the fact that this success has not been unqualified, and I have publicly stated before Joint Committee meetings of the Agreement and in appearances before Congressional committees that we must reduce or eliminate those activities which do not provide mutuality of benefit.

Since the Fifth Annual Meeting of the US-USSR Joint Committee takes place in Moscow November 15-19, 1976, it becomes imperative that the schedule of consideration and recommendation indicated in your letter be accelerated so that continuation of the Agreement, its modification, or any other position which the US Government would wish to take in connection with renewal of the Agreement could be presented and discussed at that time. With the concurrence of the Department my Executive Secretary, Dr. William A. Brown, has just completed discussions in Moscow and preliminary negotiations of a Draft Memorandum of Implementation which would cover joint work during the period November 1976 through November 1977. In that Draft Memorandum, which will be signed on November 19, is the sentence, "Taking all those factors into account, both sides recommend that their respective governments extend the term of the Agreement for the next five years and take appropriate measures."

We can include similar language in the Joint Announcement to be adopted and given to the press on November 19. A Joint Announcement of agreement by both Governments to extend the Agreement could then be made in Washington and Moscow on November 23.

Sincerely,

  
Russell E. Train  
Administrator

Honorable Arthur A. Hartman  
Assistant Secretary for European Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520



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Executive Registry

710-10485

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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November 10, 1976

TO:           The Deputy Secretary of Defense  
              The Assistant to the President for  
                  National Security Affairs  
              The Director of Central Intelligence  
              The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff  
              The Under Secretary of the Interior  
              The Deputy Secretary of Agriculture  
              The Under Secretary of Commerce  
              The Under Secretary of Health, Education  
                  and Welfare  
              The Under Secretary of Housing and Urban  
                  Development  
              The Under Secretary of Transportation  
              The Administrator, Energy Research and  
                  Development Administration  
              The Administrator, Federal Energy  
                  Administration  
              The Administrator, National Aeronautics and  
                  Space Administration  
              The Director, Office of Science and Technology  
                  Policy  
              The Acting Director, National Science Foundation  
              The Director, United States Information Agency  
              The Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality

SUBJECT: US-USSR Bilateral Technical Agreements:  
          Renewal of Health, Artificial Heart, and  
          Environment Agreements

The Chairman has forwarded the attached memorandum to the White House. A copy is provided for your information.

  
Rutherford M. Poats  
Acting Staff Director

Attachment:

1. As stated

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Executive Secretary  
11 November 1978

Date